

and one result following on it was the offer of the telescope and dome in 1879 for Mr. David Gill's use for seven years at the Cape of Good Hope. The circumstances which led to this offer being declined are already recorded in the *Monthly Notices*.* In the last weeks of his life he returned again to his efforts to secure success for his experiment, and on March 2 of last year (1889) proposed to give his telescope to the University of Cambridge, with a view to its being devoted to the study of Stellar Physics.

Mr. Newall was active in local matters, being Mayor of Gateshead in 1867 and again in 1868, an alderman of the borough, and Justice of the Peace. In 1876 he became a representative of the borough on the River Tyne Commission. He became a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1875, a member of the Institute of Mechanical Engineers in 1879, and in 1887 he received the honorary degree of D.C.L. at Durham University. He died in the 77th year of his age, on April 21, 1889.

He was elected a Fellow of this Society May 13, 1864.

STEPHEN PARKINSON was born at Keighley, in the West Riding of Yorkshire, in the year 1823. He received his early education privately, and was subsequently elected to a sizarship at St. John's College, Cambridge, which in due course was changed for a foundation scholarship, as it was evident that he was a student of unusual diligence and ability. In the Mathematical Tripos of 1845 Mr. Parkinson came out as Senior Wrangler, and when it is remembered that the second place was filled by Sir William Thomson, it is plain that his work must have been of more than ordinary excellence. In the competition for the Smith's Prizes, Sir William Thomson asserted his unusual gifts, but Mr. Parkinson easily distanced all others for the second prize.

After this achievement Mr. Parkinson was elected to a fellowship of his college, and settled down to private teaching. He eventually succeeded the Rev. J. B. Mayor as tutor, and to this post, with a lectureship attached, he devoted himself for twenty years. Ordained at Ely upon his fellowship, Mr. Parkinson proceeded B.D. in 1855, and D.D. in 1868. The *Cambridge Review* states that, "As a lecturer he was distinguished by unusual lucidity of exposition, and he published an *Elementary Treatise on Mechanics*, and a *Treatise on Optics*, which had wide vogue among students. As a tutor Dr. Parkinson is remembered by his pupils for his excellent business qualities, especially his care not to spare any trouble in giving explanations by assuming that his pupils already were perfectly acquainted with the matter in hand; but still more for his frankness and kindness of heart." Among his college pupils were four senior wranglers, Moulton, Pendlebury, Ward, and MacAlister.

* Vol. xl. p. 236.

Dr. Parkinson for a short time acted as President of his college. He examined for the Mathematical Tripos in 1849 and 1852, and was on the Council of the Senate more than once. He was a Fellow of the Royal Society, and was elected a Fellow of this Society March 11, 1853.

STEPHEN JOSEPH PERRY was born in London on August 26, 1833, and was the son of Mr. Stephen Perry, a member of a well-known firm in Red Lion Square. He received his early education at Gifford Hall School, and then went to France to study at the college at Douay, where he was so successful in his mathematical work as to carry off the first prize. From Douay he proceeded to the English College at Rome for theological training, as he was destined for the priesthood, and in 1853 he entered the Society of Jesus.

It was in 1856 that Father Perry first came to Stonyhurst to go through the usual course of mental philosophy and physical science. His special aptitude for mathematics was soon perceived, and in the same year he was appointed to assist the Rev. A. Weld, who was then Director of the Observatory.

In 1858, on matriculating at the London University, he went up for mathematical honours, taking the sixth place. After this he was sent to London for a year to study under Professor De Morgan, and then for another year to Paris, where he attended the mathematical lectures of Liouville, Delaunay, Serrat, Cauchy, and Bertrand.

In the autumn of 1860 he returned to Stonyhurst, being appointed Professor of Mathematics and Director of the Observatory, as successor to Father Weld, who had held that position for many years. In the autumn of 1863 he left to complete his theological course at St. Beuno's College, in North Wales, where he was ordained priest in 1866; and when all his studies were completed he came back finally to Stonyhurst in 1868 to resume charge of the observatory, which he continued to direct until the day of his death.

The first important scientific work Father Perry undertook, was in the autumn of 1868, when he spent the vacation in making a magnetic survey of the west of France, in which he was assisted by the Rev. W. Sidgreaves, S.J. The instruments employed were those in constant use for the monthly observations of the magnetic elements at Stonyhurst. Complete sets of observations of dip, declination, and horizontal force were taken at fifteen different stations, and the elements reduced to January 1, 1869, the secular variations being obtained by comparison with Lamont's observations made ten years previously.

In the following year this survey was continued and extended to the eastern part of France, the months of August and September being devoted to it. Complete sets of observations were made at twenty-one stations, and the elements reduced to the same epoch. In both series two sets of observations were made